

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 2 with the following amended paragraph:

“Another concern with the accurate operation of a multiple band endoscopic ligating device centers on the physician’s ability to remotely control the device from outside the patient. Control handles for operating ligating devices ~~has~~ have been somewhat primitive and may require two hands to operate. Two handed operation of the ligator control handle is especially problematic in the endoscopic context because at least one hand must be used to operate endoscope controls for articulating the distal end of the endoscope so that it may be properly navigated. As a result, operation of known endoscopic band ligators typically requires two people to operate all the necessary controls at the proximal end of the endoscope. It is an object of the present invention to provide an endoscopic band ligator control handle that can be operated with a single hand while maintaining control of the endoscope shaft.”

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 with the following amended paragraph:

“Another concern with the remote operation of the band ligating device is the accuracy with which the band dispenser component can be operated to insure release of a single band. Cable operated band dispensers lose tactile feel and accurate movement due to the flexibility inherent in the cable and in the unstable sliding movement of the small ligator components that move to release the bands. More accurate operation of the band ligator controls would enhance the reliability of the band release from the device. It is an object of the invention to ~~prove~~ improve the remote operation of the band ligator components for accurate band release.”

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 with the following amended paragraph:

“Also, as shown in FIGS. 6 and 8A, to ensure smooth sliding motion of the band driver 24 over the band carrier 22, several longitudinally extending and radially spaced centering ribs

33 may be formed on the inside surface of the band driver. The ribs 33 take up slack between the inside diameter of the band ~~carrier~~ driver and the outside diameter of the band carrier. The ribs ensure that the band driver remains concentric around the band carrier, preventing cocking that could hinder sliding movement. With a band driver formed from molded plastic, the ribs may be formed directly in or on the inside surface of the band driver. The ribs need not extend the entire length of the band driver and may be formed to taper down in height from the distal end to the middle of the driver.